



**National
Barley
Growers
Association**

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December 1, 2011

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Office of Proceedings

DEC 02 2011

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Public Record

23/380

Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

RE: Evan Hayes Nomination, Railroad-Shipper Transportation Advisory Council (Docket No. EP 526, Sub-No.3)

Surface Transportation Board:

On behalf of the National Barley Growers Association (NBGA), it is my pleasure to nominate and strongly endorse Evan Hayes for appointment to the Surface Transportation Board Railroad-Shipper Transportation Advisory Council (RSTAC).

The NBGA is a grass-roots organization dedicated to advancing the national and international interests of U.S. barley producers throughout the seven major barley-producing states. We work closely with federal policymakers, congressional offices and regulatory agencies to ensure our barley producers' concerns are considered.

As a past president of the NBGA, Evan Hayes is known as a proven leader and an expert in several areas of our industry including multi-modal transportation. Evan's unique and vast knowledge of rail shipper issues is bolstered by over thirty years of operating a farm in southwest Idaho - a region highly dependent on bulk rail shipments of agriculture commodities.

In addition to his leadership within the NBGA, Evan represented our Association as an Executive Committee member of the Alliance for Rail Competition (ARC) representing rail shippers and industry associations concerned with rail service issues. His input and involvement through ARC gave U.S. barley growers a voice on railroad and shipping policy within industry circles and throughout Congress.

The importance of transportation – and specifically rail shipping - to his livelihood combined with a deep understanding of the interconnectivity between farmers and our rail industry partners make Evan Hayes a natural and invaluable selection for the RSTAC.

The NBGA highly recommends and submits this endorsement of Evan Hayes for appointment to the RSTAC.

Best regards,

Scott Brown
President